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fascinating to see whether He-Man's armour remains as glittering after the fray.

A start at least has been made with the release of his own fitness video *Maximum Potential* in 1987 and he still works out for a couple of hours a day to keep his pectoral prowess up to a peak, though it's clear that, like Arnie, he's happy to move away from the roots that bought him recognition. *Rocky 4* in particular certainly bought him the ugly side of being a celebrity when every drunk in town wanted to take on the invincible Drago, a set up he typically shrugs off with practiced ease ('Is there anyone that suicidal?').

But while he's busy proving that biceps doesn't always mean brain dead, Dolph's been drawing on his athletic background to improve his acting skills: 'An athlete is a performer. You prepare yourself, train yourself and then get out and show what you do. While you're doing it, you have to be very relaxed and tuned in to the person you're playing against or performing opposite. You also learn to deliver excellence under stress. Good actors, like good athletes, are better when the cameras are rolling, when it means something'.

When it comes to acting his chief desire is centred on Mark Anthony: 'Shakespeare's characters were real Renaissance men, men who could speak well, read poetry, and still cut off people's heads'.

So will it be He-Man with a heart or Horatio with a hatchet? Perhaps only the sinister Ruskie knows the answer...

ANGEL ART

Ten copies of EV's *Dark Angel* to be won

Big Dolph is a tough cop up against a drug dealer from outer space(d), who reckons he's come in peace, but frankly we're not so sure. Will he boil our favourite Swede and put Dolph-in the morgue? If you'd like to be in with a chance of seeing this less than angelic affair, just tell us why Dolph split up with his old flame Grace Jones and send it to; Don't Dis Grace Comp, Video World Magazine, The Northern & Shell Building, PO Box 381, Millharbour, London E14 9TW. Closing date is 15th December, so get a flippin' move on.

Who Framed Roger Rabbit



This month we present a cartoon Classic, the animated Robert Zemeckis hit, *Who Framed Roger Rabbit.*

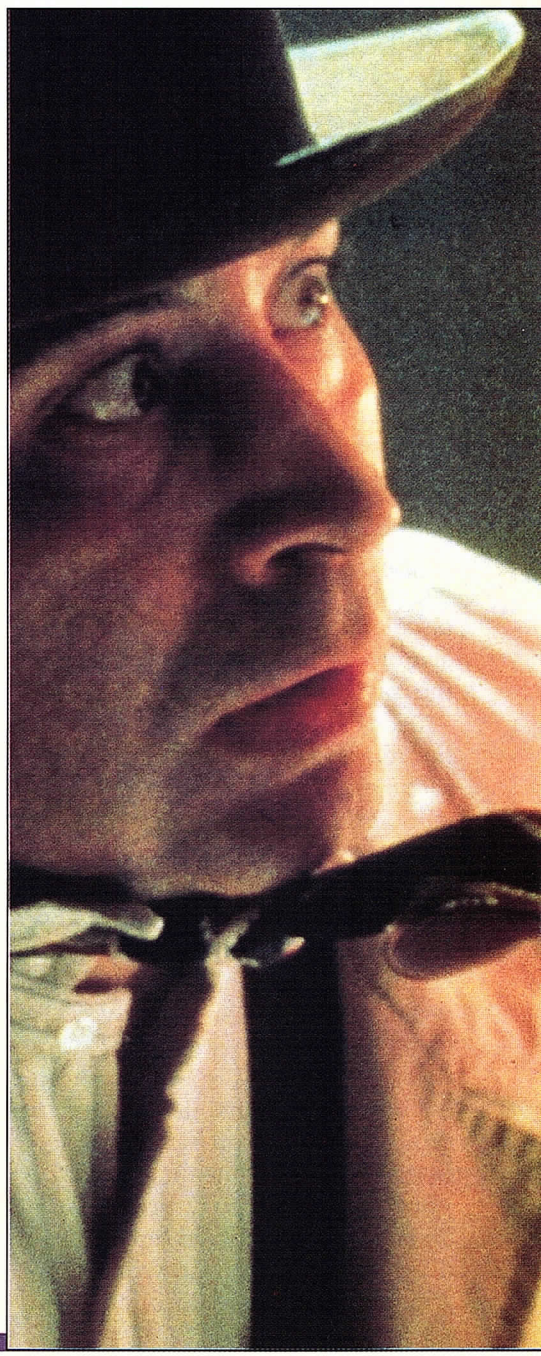
In 1989 the film industry was bowled over by the appearance of a simple guy, with a penchant for carrots, named Roger and his deliciously sexy wife Jessica. The odd thing about the couple, apart from the fact that Roger was a rabbit, was that they were Toons (cartoons to you and me). They found themselves cast alongside a human actor named Bob Hoskins, playing the part of Eddie Valiant, a private eye with a sharp suit and an even sharper attitude towards Toons, in what turned out to be one of the biggest box office hits of the eighties, *Who Framed Roger Rabbit*.

The film followed a successful old stylized formula in which the falsely accused good guy turns to the embittered, world weary private dick to help him out of a spot of bother. Throw in a sexy 'broad', a black cloaked villain and his heavies and you have the recipe for success. However, many suspected it would be a recipe for disaster - seven years in the making, a mixture of elaborate graphics, a cartoon cast and an element of 'film noir', it was feared that the public just wouldn't be interested in a *Bedknobs and Broomsticks* type adventure. But when you consider the reasons it was such a hit, the sceptics were onto a loser from the start. It had as its director Robert Zemeckis and his unshakable faith in the production, a mould-breaking combination of precision animation and real life actors, an instant sex symbol in the shape of buxom Jessica who came complete with the husky voice of Kathleen Turner, and finally the magical Steven Spielberg touch that turns everything to gold (in the form of enormous box-office takings).

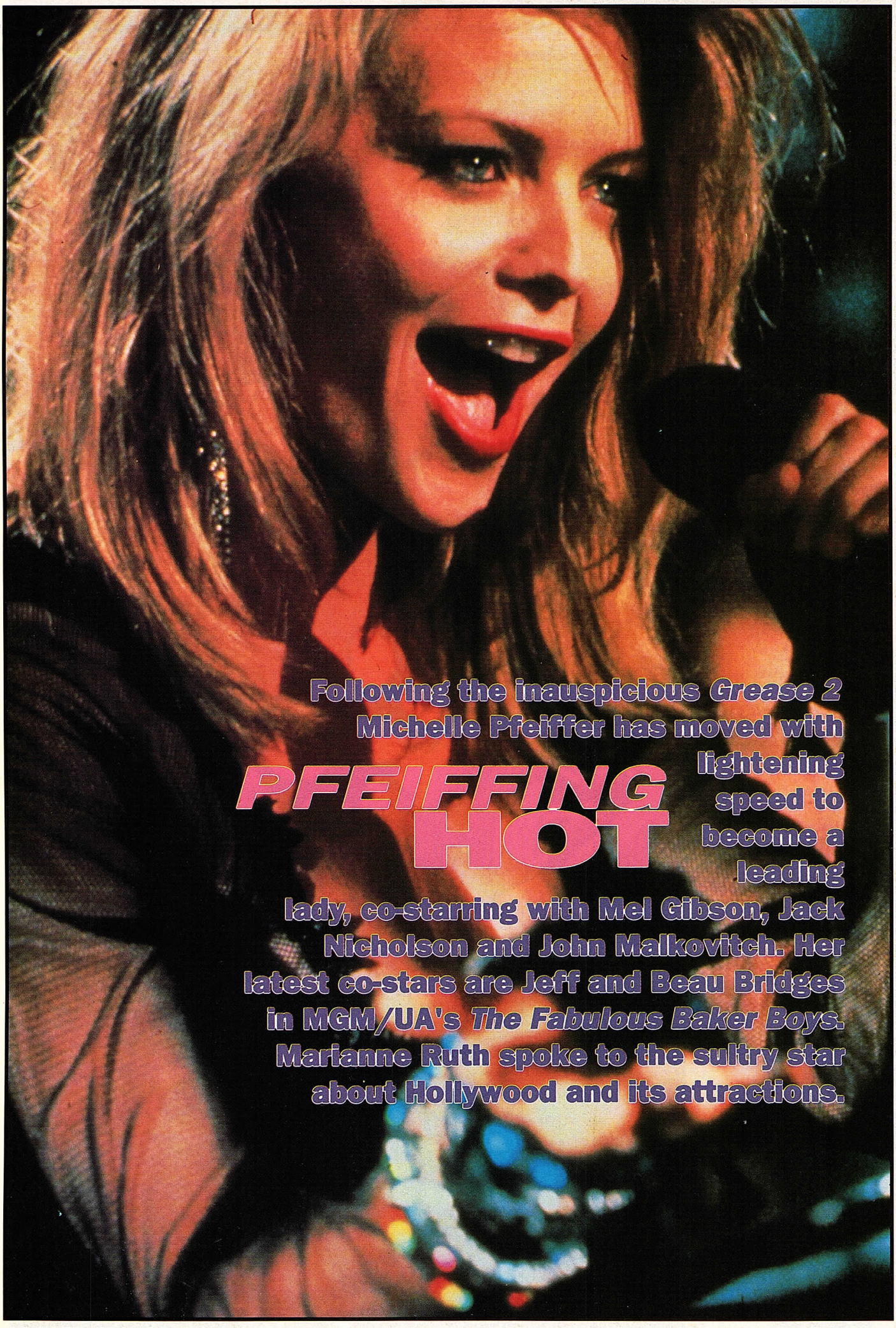
The storyline itself is not particularly outstanding. The head of a Toontown studio, R.K. Maroon is murdered and Roger has been targeted as the prime suspect - Jessica was supposedly having an affair with Maroon! Desperate to prove his innocence, Roger pleads with the now retired Eddie Valiant to help him. Reluctantly at first, as he blames Toons for the death of his brother, Eddie gets caught up in Roger's flight from the real murderers. The arch villain is played by Christopher Lloyd (*Taxi*), a Toon with the ability to transform into a human. His sidekicks are two scheming George Raft type weasels, who waste Toons with a special solution that dissolves the ink in which they're drawn. The final showdown between Valiant and his brother's murderer is a nail biter, with Jessica and Roger hanging on for grim death as a spray gun fires its lethal liquid. We're also treated to the ever wonderful Mr Hoskins (at home in yet another spivvy role) in a song and dance routine.

Who Framed Roger Rabbit looks set to stand the test of time, not only for its combination of thrills and spills action and wacky comedy, but as its stars are so attractive; Roger, the excitable fool who worships his worldly wise wife; Eddie Valiant, the cold, hard hero, with a heart of gold and the whole host of extras oozing cuteness including Betty Boop, Mickey Mouse and Bugs Bunny (no relation). The exception being Baby Herman, the cigar chewing, foul mouthed little 'big star' of Toontown, who's own career has blossomed since the film's release. A classic for all big kids everywhere!

Bill James







PFEIFFING HOT

Following the inauspicious *Grease 2* Michelle Pfeiffer has moved with lightening speed to become a leading lady, co-starring with Mel Gibson, Jack Nicholson and John Malkovitch. Her latest co-stars are Jeff and Beau Bridges in MGM/UA's *The Fabulous Baker Boys*. Marianne Ruth spoke to the sultry star about Hollywood and its attractions.